## UNITED STATES - DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT VALE DISTRICT - JORDAN/MALHEUR FIELD OFFICE

## **Decision Record**

Northwest Pipeline Cathodic Protection System Right-of-Way OR-66823and Amendment to Idaho Power Right-of-Way OR-56382 Environmental Assessment No. DOI-BLM-OR-V040-2011-062

As Field Manager of the Jordan/Malheur Resource Area, my preferred choice is to provide the opportunity for Northwest Pipeline (NWP) to install a cathodic protection system (CPS) by authorizing the Right-of-Way (ROW) as proposed by NWP and analyzed as the Proposed Action of EA DOI-BLM-OR-V040-2011-062 (EA). The EA was submitted for public comment (EA Section 8.2, pg. 35) for a period of 15 days. After considering public comments and all other information before me, the federal actions I have chosen to authorize are as follows:

- Grant the ROW to NWP for less than one (1) acre to allow installation of a cathodic protection system (CPS). Surface disturbance as identified in the Plan of Development will consist of excavation and exposure of the pipeline and construction of a conventional ground bed perpendicular to the pipeline. The construction will consist of the installation of a conventional CPS site consisting of a wooden pole, rectifier, electrical cable and 20 buried anodes. There will also be approximately 490 feet of positive cable and anodes leading from a new rectifier located within NW Pipeline's existing pipeline easement. The physical specifications are for an easement 20 feet in width and 10 feet in length on each side to the rectifier, positive cable and anode bed.
- The duration of the ROW will be for thirty (30) years.
- This project will be completed incorporating the protection and mitigation measures within EA DOI-BLM-OR-V040-2011-062. These measures detailed in the Adopted Environmental Protection Measures as listed in Section 2.2 (pg. 14), the mitigation measures detailed in Section 6 (pgs. 32-34), and the monitoring requirements of Section 7 will remain in effect for the duration of the ROW.

The actions allowed will meet the EA purpose and need which would allow NWP to install a CPS on Federal surface land. Additionally, the actions meet the intent and direction of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (PL. 109-58), Section 211. In addition, the relevant SEORMP FEIS (USDI-BLM 2001, pg. 187) management objective will be met because the actions will (1) provide opportunities for exploration and development of leasable energy and mineral resources while protecting other sensitive resources.

My rationale found in policy and statute is as follows:

Rights-Of-Way and NEPA - Under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA, Title V) and its implementing regulations, BLM is authorized to grant, issue, or renew rights-of-way over public land so long as the action does not violate existing ROWs, laws, or regulations, and protects the public interests.

## **Appeal Rights**

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR, Part 4 and Form 1842-1. If an appeal is filed, your notice must be filed in the Vale District Office, 100 Oregon Street, Vale, Oregon 97918 within 30 days of receipt. The appellant has the burden of showing that the decision appealed is in error.

If you wish to file a petition, pursuant to regulation 43 CFR 4.21, for a stay of the effectiveness of this decision during the time that your appeal is being reviewed by the Board, the petition for stay must accompany your notice of appeal. A petition for stay is required to show sufficient justification based on the standards listed below. Copies of the notice of appeal and petition for a stay must also be submitted to each party named in this decision and to the Interior Board of Land Appeals and to the appropriate Office of the Solicitor (see 43 CFR 4.413) at the same time the original documents are filed with this office. If you request a stay, you have the burden of proof to demonstrate that a stay should be granted.

## **Standards for Obtaining a Stay**

Except as otherwise provided by law or other pertinent regulation, a petition for a stay of a decision pending appeal shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

- 1. The relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied.
- 2. The likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits.
- 3. The likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted.
- 4. Whether or not the public interest favors granting the stay.

Field Manager

Jordan/Malheur Resource Areas